

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 18233 01 OF 02 261737Z

53

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 SAI-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06

SIL-01 OMB-01 NIC-01 DRC-01 /151 W

----- 003236

R 261637Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1172

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 18233

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLAB, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH EMBASSY (PEKING) REPORTS ON PRC

TRADE UNIONS

1. LABOR ATTACHE HAS HAD ACCESS FOR PERUSAL ONLY TO A REPORT PREPARED BY FRENCH EMBASSY IN PEKING ON CHINESE TRADE UNIONS DATED 14 JULY 1974. THE 15-PAGE REPORT IS A COMPETENT ANALYSIS OF PRC RECENT ATTEMPT TO REVIVE TRADE UNION ORGANIZATIONS AS INSTRUMENTS OF THE PARTY. WITH CONSIDERABLE INSIGHT THE AUTHOR DRAWS A DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE PERIOD OF "CULTURAL REVOLUTION" WHEN TRADE UNIONS WERE ATTACKED AS SYMBOLS OF THE PRIVILEGED STATUS ENJOYED BY THE WORKING CLASS AND SUBSEQUENT PERIOD WHICH CULMINATED IN THE 1973 RECONSTITUTION OF TRADE UNIONS FOR INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL PURPOSES. WITH REGARD TO THE  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 18233 01 OF 02 261737Z

UNIONS' INTERNAL ROLE THE REPORT QUOTES FROM RADIO

BROADCASTS ASSERTING THAT "THE TRADE UNIONS CANNOT GIVE BIRTH TO TRADE UNIONISM" (APPARENTLY MEANING A PROFESSIONAL DEFENSE OF WORKERS INTERESTS). THE REPORT CONCLUDES THAT ACCORDING TO PRC IDEOLOGY THE DUTIES OF TRADE UNIONS AS STATE INSTRUMENTALITIES COME AHEAD OF ANY CONCERN ON THEIR PART TO SATISFY WORKER NEEDS.

2. THE FRENCH REPORT CONSIDERS THAT THE RECONSTITUTION OF THE UNIONS AND THE APPARENT EFFORT TO LEND THEM PRESTIGE AND IMPORTANCE WERE INSPIRED BY AWARENESS THAT THE UNIONS COULD SERVE PRC INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. THIS VIEW IS SUPPORTED BY THE CONTACTS WHICH PRC UNIONS HAVE TRIED TO DEVELOP WITH OTHER NATIONAL CENTERS SINCE 1973.

3. ANOTHER EVIDENCE OF UNION DEPENDENCE ON THE COMMUNIST PARTY IS SEEN, ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, IN THE FACT THAT THE UNIONS EXTERNAL RELATIONS ARE HANDLED THROUGH THE LIAISON OFFICE OF THE PARTY HEADED BY KENG PIAO.

4. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT STATISTICAL INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE REPORT PERTAINS TO THE PERCENTAGE OF UNION MEMBERS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY. WHILE THIS FIGURE FOR 1956 WAS 14 PERCENT IN 1969 IT DROPPED TO 2.5 PERCENT OF 28 MILLION UNION MEMBERS MAKING A TOTAL OF 750 THOUSAND WORKERS BROKEN DOWN BY PROVINCE AS FOLLOWS:

PEKING - 40,000

TIENTSIN - 16,000

LIAONING - 59,000

HUNAN - 48,000

HONAN - 26,000

TIBET - 4,300

MONGOLIA AND ADJOINING PROVINCES - 220,000

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 18233 02 OF 02 261735Z

53

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01

OMB-01 NIC-01 DRC-01 /151 W  
----- 003237

R 261637Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1173  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USLO PEKING  
AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 18233

KIRIN - SHANSI - ANHWEI - 67,000  
KWANGSI - 67,000 - HUPEI - 70,000  
CHEKIANG - NINGHSIA - FUKIEN - 18,000  
SZECHUAN - CHINGHAI - KIANGSI - 80,000

5. REPORT CONTAINS A 10-PAGE ATTACHMENT WHICH PROVIDES (BY PROVINCE) NAMES OF TRADE UNION ORGANIZATIONS AND THEIR MORE IMPORTANT LEADERS.

6. WHILE NOTABLE QUALITY OF REPORT SUGGESTS THAT FRENCH EMBASSY HAS BEEN GATHERING INFORMATION FOR IT FOR SOME TIME, WE KNOW FROM RELIABLE SOURCE THAT TIMING OF ITS DISPATCH WAS DETERMINED BY TELEGRAM FROM THE QUAI ASKING FOR SUCH REPORT LATE IN JUNE. INTERESTINGLY, THIS REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON PRC CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 18233 02 OF 02 261735Z

UNIONS ORIGINATED WITH CFDT LEADERS WHO HAVE ACCEPTED AN INVITATION FROM CHINESE UNIONS TO VISIT CHINA NEXT OCTOBER. THE CFDT DELEGATION WILL BE COMPOSED OF EDMOND MAIRE, SECRETARY GENERAL, RENE SALANNE, HEAD OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, AND JACQUES MOREAU, SECRETARY GENERAL OF CHEMICAL WORKERS FEDERATION.

7. WE WILL ATTEMPT TO SECURE A COPY OF THE FULL REPORT FROM THE QUAI. HOWEVER, US LIAISON OFFICE MAY WISH TO TRY ITS CHANCE OF OBTAINING COPY DIRECTLY FROM FRENCH EMBASSY, ESPECIALLY SINCE IT DID NOT BEAR ANY SECURITY CLASSIFICATION STAMP. IF SUCH APPROACH

IS MADE PLEASE PROTECT INFORMATION IN PARA 6 ABOVE.

IRWIN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, TRADE, LABOR UNIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 JUL 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974PARIS18233  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740203-0652  
**From:** PARIS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740714/aaaaalul.tel  
**Line Count:** 171  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 APR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <05 APR 2002 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <24 JUN 2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FRENCH EMBASSY (PEKING) REPORTS ON PRC TRADE UNIONS  
**TAGS:** ELAB, FR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005